

U.S DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
WYOMING

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN  
TROUGH OR TANK  
CODE 614**

Landowner/Operator \_\_\_\_\_

Job Location \_\_\_\_\_ GPS \_\_\_\_\_

Prepared By \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS**

A water trough or tank is an asset to the farm or ranch. This practice was designed and installed to provide storage and/or a facility to provide utilization of water by livestock. Estimated life span for this installation is at least 10 years. Life of this installation can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out an effective operation and maintenance program. AN effective operation and maintenance program includes:

- ☐ Inspect connections, valves, gates, rodent guards, inlets and outlets to make sure they are functioning properly. Check troughs and tanks for leaks or cracks. Make repairs or replacements as needed.
- ☐ Make certain the area adjacent to the trough is well protected with gravel, paving, or good cover. Be sure that the outlet pipe (if any) has a free outlet and is not causing any serious erosion problems.
- ☐ Remove any debris from the trough or tank. Clean the entire system periodically and remove moss, algae and/or sludge. Chemicals such as copper sulfate and chlorine may be used to prevent moss and algae growth. Health regulations must be followed when using chemicals to make sure they are safe for animals.
- ☐ Maintain coverings and insulation to prevent-damage by freezing.
- ☐ Maintain vigorous growth of desirable vegetation. This includes reseeding, fertilization and application of herbicides when necessary. Periodic mowing may also be needed to control growth.
- ☐ Remove rodents and/or burrowing animals that have or may damage the system. Repair any damage caused by their activity.
- ☐ Repair any vandalism, vehicular or livestock damage.

Other \_\_\_\_\_

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